



AROUND YOUR LIBRARY! Library Selected to Test Tech Benchmarks

Parmly Billings Library is one of 140 libraries selected from throughout the country to beta test technology benchmarks for libraries through the Edge Initiative. Sponsorship is provided by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the International City/County Management Association, the Public Library Association and other library, government and educational partners.

The Initiative currently groups fourteen benchmarks with twenty-nine indicators under three strategy focus categories: Community Value, Engaging the Community & Decision Makers, and Organizational Management. The benchmarks will permit Parmly Billings Library to improve and evaluate technology service offerings for the community. The Edge Initiative builds on a survey of patrons the Library conducted in the fall of 2011 in which respondents answered questions related to in-library computer use.

Summer Reading Registration!

There's still time to enjoy the fun of Summer Reading! Registration continues through Saturday, July 21, so you have a chance at many of the great prizes still available. There are wonderful programs for children and teens during July, and check out story times and programs out at The Community Library on the West End, too! (See the schedule for Wednesday Story Times and Thursday Programs on this newsletter's calendar page.) Summer Reading is not just for kids, either—adults have their own reading program and can enter the drawing for a great e-reader grand prize! Check our website for all the details. *Join the fun this summer—READ!*

SUMMERFAIR!

An annual summertime tradition is coming up on *Saturday and Sunday, July 14-15*, and we'll be there! Say hello at our booth, browse through the books from the Friends, and learn about all the great new things going on at the Library. *See you at Veteran's Park!*



Dave Ward, Board Chair Shari Nault, Library Director Bill Cochran

Trustee Dave Ward Retires

At its June meeting, the Library Board of Trustees recognized retiring Yellowstone County trustee **Dave Ward** for his ten years of service. *Thank you, Dave!*

REMINDER: Due to the ongoing construction at the Library, many of our programs are taking place at other locations around Billings. Please double check the location of the program you plan to attend.

News & Views

of the Parmly Billings Library Foundation

June brought a flurry of activities for the Library Foundation with the Summer Reading Program kicking off summer events. The children's portion of the program provides an excellent opportunity for young readers to continue their reading skills during the summer months. Our sincere thanks to **Conoco Phillips**, in collaboration with the Library Foundation, in underwriting the Summer Reading List. This helpful guide, distributed to all students in Billings, provides reading recommendations for all reading levels and ages.

On June 7, another sellout **Food for Thought** was hosted by the Foundation. Many thanks to **Cloud Peak Energy**, Event Sponsor, as well

as to the generous **Table Sponsors** who supported the event. And, we couldn't do it without our stimulating **Table Hosts**. *Thank you, everyone!*

On June 28, several hundred people came to the building site for the new building's official **Groundbreaking** kick-off. Collaboration, cooperation and commitment from hundreds of people made this day possible. *Thank you!*

The Foundation is continuing its efforts to raise additional funds for enhancements to the new building. We are grateful to everyone for your continued support. For more information about the Foundation, contact **Leslie Modrow**, Foundation Director, at 237-6149 or leslie@billingslibraryfoundation.org.

Friends

of Parmly Billings Library

With construction underway for the new Library, plans for the Friends' adjustment to new quarters are underway, too. Having almost an entire floor for our work and books will no longer be possible, but as Friends' president **Mona Harris** put it, "A lot can be done in a smaller space. It's a matter of organization."

Seeking ideas, several members traveled to Bozeman recently to meet with that town's Friends organization and see first-hand how it operates (and quite successfully!) with a space and agenda similar to what we will have. According to Billings Friend **Nancy Traeger**, the Bozeman visit offered many "ideas we can build on."

Since the next first Wednesday is July 4th, there will be no book sale. However, you'll

find a large selection of attractively-priced children's books and adult paperbacks under the tent we share with the Library at **Summerfair**. As always, the **Book Nook**, under the stairs in the Billings Library, presents a variety of offerings. This month, we focus on American history, "Christmas in July" and relaxing summer reading.

Several new volunteers have joined us on Wednesday mornings to sort and shelve donations. Their helpfulness and friendliness are appreciated by all. **If you are interested in volunteering, please call 237-6170.** *We would love to have you join us!*

"Man is a bird without wings and a bird is a man without sorrows."
~Louis de Bernieres
Birds without Wings

